



The **TEAM Course** emphasizes a team approach from local dispatch through resuscitation of the trauma patient at a rural facility. With more than 60 percent of the country's trauma deaths occurring in a rural area, the course focuses on components of local and regional system organization, communications, pre-hospital and hospital response in a team framework to address assessment, intervention, stabilization, transport and transfer of trauma patients to increase effectiveness of care and efficiency of resource utilization.

Course Description

TEAM is a 4 hours course which was originally developed in the late 1990's specifically for Montana rural communities. TEAM is based on the concept that in most situations, rural facilities can form a trauma team consisting of; Dispatch, Law Enforcement/Fire, EMS, local Hospital ED and ancillary staff, Physicians/Mid-level providers and any other interested parties who are responsible for the care of trauma patients. Modular didactic sessions are presented by an EMT/Paramedic, Trauma RN and Physician (Surgeon or Emergency Room Physician) generally from a Level II and/or Level III Trauma Hospital within the three RTACs. Brief educational, multi-disciplinary modules are presented by the faculty addressing the Montana Trauma System, Prehospital Initiation of Care, Mobilization of Resources, Emergency Assessment and Treatment and Inter-facility Transfer. This course serves to assess six areas of a community's trauma delivery system — Public Access/Dispatch, Prehospital Response, Facility Response, Inter-facility Transport, Data/Quality Improvement and Overall System Development. A trauma patient scenario is provided, with Dispatch actively placing a radio communication to the EMS providers. EMS providers respond to an appropriately prepared manikin, assess and provide care to the "patient". The mock patient is packaged, loaded and transported to the ED and the EMS responders conduct a radio report to the local Hospital facility. ED staff practice receiving the report, notifying staff (activation of the Trauma Team) and preparing the department for arrival of the patient. When the "patient" arrives, EMS, ED staff and Physicians/Mid-levels practice Trauma Patient resuscitation with the manikin. Practice with their monitoring and interventional equipment under guidance of visiting faculty allows for practice of such skills as chest tubes and intubation, which are done infrequently, but require high skill to complete. The practical exercise is the most popular portion of the course, allowing for Trauma Team development and "real-time" practice/feedback.

Target Audience

All disciplines that interact with the care and transport of a trauma patient are encouraged to attend. This includes local Dispatch, Law Enforcement/Fire, EMS, Hospital ED and ancillary staff, Physicians/Mid-level providers and any other interested parties who are responsible for the care of trauma patients.

Course Objectives

- Organize a rural team with defined roles and responsibilities for the members
- Prepare a rural facility for the appropriate care of the injured patient
- Identify local resources and limitations
- Assess and resuscitate a trauma patient
- Initiate the transfer to definitive care early
- Establish a performance improvement process
- Encourage effective communication between all disciplines
- Define the relationship between the rural trauma facility and the Regional Trauma Center in their region

To request a course please contact your Regional Trauma Center's Trauma Coordinator